



## Annex 1

### NPPP Monitoring Framework Update August 2024

#### Nature

Name	A1 Net Zero
<b>Objective</b>	Ensure the Cairngorms National Park reaches net zero as soon as possible and contributes all it can to helping Scotland meet its net zero commitments.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	By 2023, establish the timeframe within which the Cairngorms National Park will be net zero and set a target for becoming carbon negative.  Annual independent progress report on net zero for the Cairngorms National Park.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Small World Consultancy report 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Annual emissions from residents: 277,145 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (14.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per person per year)</li> <li>b) Annual emissions from visitors while in the National Park: 89,788 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (20.8 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e per visitor-day)</li> <li>c) Annual emissions from visitors travelling to/from the National Park: 232,591 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (112.5 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e per visit)</li> <li>d) Annual industry emissions: 64,853 tCO<sub>2</sub>e</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Dashboard of highlight annual indicators being developed by Small World Consultancy for National Park – due to be completed end of 2024.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	
<b>Progress 2022 – 2023</b>	The primary drivers towards achieving net zero by 2025 are peatland restoration and woodland targets. Woodland expansion



	<p>has been lower than expected but is not thought to be of significant impact at this stage.</p> <p>As part of the UK National Parks partnership, the Park Authority has signed up to the race to zero challenge, a commitment to delivering target for Greenhouse Gas Commitments in line with the Paris Agreement.</p>
<b>Progress 2023 – 2024</b>	<p>SWC dashboard for annual progress report in development, for completion late 2024.</p> <p>Areas of woodland expansion exceed pathway to net-zero targets with 2,658 hectares (Ha) of Forest Grant Schemes approved in 2023 / 24.</p> <p>Estimated area of peatland under restoration above target with 1345ha completed in 2023 / 24</p>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	<p>Cairngorms Business Partnership (CBP) networking events will have a focus on 'Toward net zero', this will be a focus for them and their members. HIE investigating a partnership approach to support this.</p> <p>Cairngorm Mountain (Scotland) Limited have an action plan for Net Zero reporting, including renewable energy options. Talks continue with Scotland and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) with regards potential upgrades to the electrical supply.</p>

<b>Name</b>	<b>A2 Woodland expansion</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Increase the amount of woodland in the National Park to support larger, more natural woodlands, expanding in places up to a natural treeline, providing connections across river catchments and around the central core of the mountains.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	<p>A minimum of 35,000 ha of new woodland cover created by 2045, which:</p> <p>a) Includes a minimum of 80% native woodland.</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) Includes a minimum of 10,000ha of natural regeneration without planting.</li> <li>c) Results in no wholesale conversion of enclosed, in-bye agricultural land to forestry.</li> <li>d) Minimises the amount of fencing in the National Park by favouring establishment through herbivore management and removing redundant fences.</li> </ul>
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	35,000 ha to be created by 2045.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Ha of new woodland Forest Grant Scheme approvals including the Ha of native woodland, Ha of natural regen and Ha of schemes approved without fencing.</p> <p>Collected annually by Scottish Forestry in March.</p>
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Discussion with Scottish Forestry and with managers of non-grant funded proposals.
<b>Progress 2022-2023</b>	<p>April 2022 – March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 402.98 ha of woodland creation was approved</li> <li>b) 105.48 (26%) of which was natural regeneration</li> <li>c) All schemes are fenced</li> </ul> <p>Progress against targets has been lower than expected. This reflects the National trend. It is thought to be because of several factors including Covid-19 impacts on markets, hesitation around a revised Forest Grant Scheme and potential carbon markets.</p>
<b>Progress 2023-2024</b>	<p>April 2023 - March 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 2658ha of woodland creation was approved</li> <li>b) 1211ha (45%) of which was natural regeneration</li> <li>c) 1262ha of woodland was registered under the Woodland Carbon Code within the Cairngorms National Park.</li> </ul> <p>Progress against targets was good in 2023 / 24, largely delivered through a few large schemes. Most natural regeneration was</p>



	<p>delivered through herbivore management on one estate. The pipeline of new schemes in the consultation process indicates future targets likely to be met.</p> <p>The proportion of new woodland which is being entered into the Woodland Carbon Code is being investigated by Scottish Forestry.</p>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	<p>Several estates continue to promote natural regeneration through herbivore management within the National Park. Many other estates are considering planted schemes, and a number of forestry schemes are currently working their way through the approval process.</p>

<b>Name</b>	<b>A3 Peatland restoration</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Restore and manage peatland within the National Park to reduce carbon emissions and improve biodiversity.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	<p>A minimum of 38,000 ha peatland is under restoration management by 2045.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 80% of all drains are restored by 2035.</li> <li>b) All erosion features are restored by 2050.</li> <li>c) 6500ha under restoration by 2027</li> </ul>
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	38,000ha of peatland to be restored by 2045.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Ha actively eroding / erosion features and Ha drain blocking collected annually in March by Park Authority Peatland Action Team.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Project delivery, assessments of resource and expressions of interest from land managers, collected ad hoc by Peatland Team.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	1080ha brought under restoration



	<p>The area of restoration exceeded the target. The new entrant scheme successfully increased the number of contractors working in the area. Efficiencies have been made and land manager confidence increased through the use of multi-year contracts. New trials established for working with higher deer densities.</p>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<p>1345ha brought under restoration.</p> <p>Trials of design and delivery through project management by third party agents are ongoing and we are supporting capacity building in estate teams. Pipeline of potential projects remains strong. Support for new entrants' schemes has been continued with the aim of building capacity in the sector.</p> <p>All of the estimated 1345ha which were brought under restoration were entered into the Peatland Code.</p>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	<p>Land manager support for peatland restoration remains high. This is true across all land management objectives and peatland restoration continues to enjoy widespread support and little opposition. In 2024 / 25 we have 13 live projects across the National Park.</p>

<b>Name</b>	<b>A4 Deer and herbivore impacts</b>
<b>Objective</b>	<p>Reduce the negative impacts of red deer and other herbivores across the National Park to enable woodlands to expand, heather loss to be reversed, peatlands to recover and wider biodiversity and landscape enhancements to take place.</p>
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	<p>Average open range red deer densities in each deer management group are a maximum of five to eight per km<sup>2</sup> by 2030.</p> <p>Non-native sika and fallow deer will be contained within their current distribution in the National Park by 2030.</p>



	Indicator: Impact of herbivores on Partnership Plan ecological restoration targets (peatland, moorland and structural diversity in moorland)
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Cairngorms and Speyside &lt;5/km<sup>2</sup> (2016 data)</li> <li>b) South Deeside &amp; North Angus 10/km<sup>2</sup> (2022 data)</li> <li>c) South Grampians 16/km<sup>2</sup> (2022 data)</li> <li>d) Upper Deeside and Donside 6-7/km<sup>2</sup> (2016 data)</li> <li>e) West Grampian DMG: 20 deer/km<sup>2</sup> (2022 data)</li> </ul> <p>Assessment of current distribution of sika and fallow is to be collected from Deer Management Group meetings during 2023.</p>
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Helicopter counts collected by NatureScot, full open range count scheduled 2026 / 27.</p> <p>Habitat Impact Assessments and red deer foot counts, collected by Deer Management Groups.</p> <p>Site Condition Monitoring collected by NatureScot Cairngorm Nature Index moorland indicators</p>
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Annual sika and fallow reporting by Deer Management Groups.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	A Section seven agreement is in place for much of the South Grampian Deer Management Group and the Caenlochan Special Area of Conservation. Deer managers and NatureScot have agreed a plan to reduce deer densities to 10 / km <sup>2</sup> over the next three years. Strategic Land Use Plans, including natural capital assessments and deer population modelling, have been completed for the three Deer Management Groups in the south of the National Park as part of Heritage Horizons: Cairngorms 2030 development phase.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	The cull targets for year one within the Caenlochan Section seven agreement have been exceeded and there are two culling years to go.



	<p>Following on from the completion of Strategic Land Use Partnerships (SLUPs) for three Deer Management Groups (DMGs) in the National Park, some estates are bringing forward natural capital projects for consideration for funding under Cairngorms 2030 delivery phase.</p> <p>The park Authority will run an incentive scheme which will pay a subsidy on a proportion of the hind and calf cull taken in 2024 / 25, provided higher culls are achieved. This scheme aims to incentivise larger hind culls in higher density areas.</p>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	Deer management through culling is ongoing throughout the National Park. The amount of participation in the incentive scheme to increase culls will be apparent by March 2025.

<b>Name</b>	<b>A5 Moorland Management</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Increase the sustainability of moorland management in the National Park to ensure greater species and structural diversity in moorland areas of the National Park.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	<p>Target: A measurable and sustained increase in both the home range, occupation and breeding success of golden eagle, hen harrier, merlin and peregrine across the National Park.</p> <p>Indicator: Increased species and habitat diversity on grouse moors, linking together a natural transition from woodland to montane scrub to upland heath.</p>
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	<p>2019 - 2021 average:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Golden Eagle - 39</li> <li>b) Hen Harrier - 21 (National survey due in 2023)</li> <li>c) Merlin - don't have data as no comprehensive survey</li> <li>d) Peregrine - 17 (based on limited survey)</li> </ul> <p>Ha of scrub juniper, willows, and young natural regeneration to be surveyed and collated in 2023.</p>



	Moorland diversity indicators scheduled 2026.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Annual Raptor Study Group raptor monitoring data, Raptor project officer.</p> <p>Number of persecution incidents, Police Scotland, annually.</p> <p>Ha of juniper, willows and young natural regeneration re-surveyed every five years, collected by East Cairngorms Moorland Partnership Officer.</p> <p>Moorland diversity indicators via Cairngorms Nature Index, every five years, Adam Fraser.</p>
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Assessments of potential and current moorland management projects and practices collected ad hoc by the Park Authority.</p> <p>Assessments of impact of new Wildlife Management Bill, collected ad hoc by the Park Authority and NatureScot.</p>
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	Raptor data, number of persecution incidents and assessment of project progress to follow.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<p>Raptor data have been collected for the East Cairngorms Moorland Partnership area where populations of golden eagles, peregrines and hen harriers are stable or increasing. Data collection is not entirely comprehensive for all species (merlin and peregrine) in all areas. Peregrine survey underway in 2024.</p> <p>A baseline of 108 ha of scrub has been estimated for East Cairngorms Moorland Partnership area using remote sensing technology.</p> <p>The Wildlife Management and Muirburn Act became law in summer 2024 although different parts of the Act will be enacted at different dates. It establishes a licensing system for Grouse shooting and a separate licensing system to regulate Muirburn. Both licensing systems will be underpinned by Codes setting out</p>





	<p>clear guidance on what practitioners must do to comply with legislation. The effectiveness of the Act will be partly assessed through monitoring of raptor populations.</p> <p>Six raptor persecution incidents reported in 2013 / 24.</p>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	<p>The Grouse Moor Licensing system is in place now but not all grouse estates have applied for a license as there are few grouse to shoot this year. The Muirburn License system is scheduled to be active from September 2025.</p> <p>A natural transition from woodland to moorland is expanding through herbivore management, notably on estates in the Cairngorms Connect partnership and on Mar Lodge estate. Plotting and monitoring continues on these estates.</p>

<b>Name</b>	<b>A6 Gamebird management</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Ensure that all pheasant and partridge shoots adhere to best practice and that all gamebird releases are sustainable and do not negatively impact on native biodiversity.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	<p>Target: Gamebird releases have no negative impact on native biodiversity.</p> <p>Indicator: Impacts of gamebirds released around the National Park each year.</p>
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	<p>a) Number of gamebird releases to be established in 2023.</p> <p>b) Biodiversity indicators to be established in 2024.</p>
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Gamebird releases, collected every five years, Game and Wildlife Conservancy Trust (GWCT).</p> <p>Biodiversity impacts, measured as per indicators established in 2024, repeated every five years.</p>
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative</b>	



<b>(who collects, how often)</b>	
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	Research has been commissioned to produce a methodology for capturing gamebird release data from land managers in the National Park. Data will be collected during 2024.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	Data collection has been delayed but is now underway. Data on game bird releases within the National Park should be available by the end of 2024.  Methodology agreed for PhD research into impacts. Due to start late 2024.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	GWCT will lead on this project.

<b>Name</b>	<b>A7 Fire management</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Ensure that all managed burning (muirburn) follows best practice as defined by the muirburn licensing scheme, supporting habitat restoration and recovery.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Target: Reduce wildfire risk by developing an integrated wildfire management plan for the National Park.  Indicator: All muirburn will comply with regulations set out in the muirburn licensing scheme, including stopping burning on deep peatlands as defined by the licensing following Wildlife Management Bill regime.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Deep peat / blanket bog across the National Park to be mapped by 2026.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A draft Integrated Wildfire Management Plan will be available for consultation by December 2024.</li> <li>b) Amount of muirburn on deep peat / blanket bog mapped by 2026.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) Number of muirburn licences issued, the area they cover and any infringements NatureScot, timescale to be determined as per Wildlife Management and Muirburn Act.</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Reports of wildfire incidents in National Park.</li> <li>b) Ranger reports of campfires and barbecues.</li> <li>c) Impact of Muirburn licensing legislation, ad hoc by Park Authority staff.</li> </ul>
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	The consultation on the Wildlife Management Bill and proposed legislation for the control and licencing of grouse shooting and muirburn took place from October 2022 to December 2022 and became an Act in summer 2024. This legislation will be key to progressing action in this objective.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<p>Integrated Wildfire Management Plan is in development. On track for consultation in autumn 2024. To be presented at wildfire conference in November as part of that consultation.</p> <p>Fire byelaw consultation underway. This consultation will cover the wording of the byelaw.</p> <p>The Wildlife Management and Muirburn Act establishes a licensing system for grouse shooting. This is in place from 12 August 2024. The licensing system for muirburn will not be ready for implementation until September 2025. The Muirburn Code is being revised to fit with new legislation.</p>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	Land manager engagement with the Integrated Wildfire Management Plan development has been widespread and constructive.

<b>Name</b>	<b>A8 Farming</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Work with farms in the National Park to reduce their carbon footprint, conserve soil carbon, encourage sustainable production and deliver increased biodiversity on in-bye land.



<p><b>Target / Indicator</b></p>	<p>Target: Carbon and biodiversity plans are in place for farms across the National Park by 2028.</p> <p>Indicator: Target rural payments to support sustainable food production, reduce carbon, increase and maintain the health of habitats and ecosystems, enhance biodiversity and help connect different habitats across the National Park.</p> <p>Establish a Regional Land Use Partnership and Framework for the National Park by 2023.</p>
<p><b>Baseline 2022</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Percentage of farming units in the Cairngorms National Park with accredited carbon schemes to be established in 2023.</li> <li>b) Ha of land in Agri-Environment Climate Scheme (AECS) to be established in 2023.</li> <li>c) Number of farms with biodiversity audits to be established in 2023.</li> <li>d) Regional Land Use Partnership and Framework established in 2022.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Ha of land under Agri-Environment Climate schemes, collated annual by Scottish Government Rural Payments Inspectorate Directive.</li> <li>b) Number of farms with biodiversity audits, NatureScot, annually.</li> <li>c) Farming units in accredited carbon schemes collected annually.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b></p>	<p>Progress of nature friendly farming projects and farm wildlife population trends, collected annually by Cairngorms Nature partners.</p> <p>Progression of Piloting an Outcomes Based Approach in Scotland and regionalised payments schemes, collected annually by Naturescot.</p>
<p><b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b></p>	<p>Currently being assessed.</p>



<p><b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b></p>	<p>31 farms with carbon audits within the National Park in 2023. Working with NatureScot on testing Biodiversity Audit methodology, due end of 2024.</p> <p>Approximately 60,000 Ha within Agri-Environment and Climate Scheme (AECS) contracts annually.</p> <p>Approximately 60 farms delivering Nature Friendly Farming projects to deliver Cairngorms Nature Action Plan objectives.</p>
<p><b>Partner Activity</b></p>	<p>Strathspey Waders and Wetlands Initiative delivery of habitat management at priority sites.</p> <p>Farms and crofts throughout the National Park are expanding the species rich grassland resource in the National Park, trialling mob grazing and developing low tillage and other low carbon practices.</p>

<p><b>Name</b></p>	<p><b>A9 Freshwater systems</b></p>
<p><b>Objective</b></p>	<p>Restore and connect rivers to thriving wetlands and floodplains as part of a wider restoration of the National Park's freshwater systems, helping mitigate the impacts of climate change.</p>
<p><b>Target / Indicator</b></p>	<p>Target: 70% of our rivers are in good ecological condition Good Ecological Condition by 2045, with ecological structure, function and productivity not deviating significantly from a near-natural system condition.</p> <p>Indicator: The Cairngorms Nature Index will establish a baseline and measure change in river naturalness. This is aligned with the Water Framework Directive and enhanced by indicators.</p>
<p><b>Baseline 2022</b></p>	<p>68% of rivers currently in Good Ecological Condition based on Water Framework Directive. Further detail to be added in 2023 based on Cairngorms Nature Index.</p>
<p><b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative</b></p>	<p>Cairngorms Nature Index indicators, repeated every five years, the Park Authority with data from Catchment Management</p>



<b>(who collects, how often)</b>	Partnerships, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and NatureScot.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Progress of current and potential restoration projects sourced through annual reports from Catchment Management Partnerships and Cairngorms Nature partners.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	The Freshwater model for the Cairngorms Nature Index is under review by an expert advisory group. The Spey Catchment Initiative has become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation with increased capacity and organisational resilience to deliver landscape-scale projects. Catchment management Partnerships have drawn down approximately £300,000 of funding, primarily via the Nature Restoration Fund, for restoration in the Spey, Dee and South Esk catchments.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	The freshwater index for the Cairngorm Nature Index highlights six indicators in good, stable or improving condition, four in good, but declining condition, and three indicators in poor condition. Overall, the freshwater ecosystem is considered to be in good condition.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	<p>The Catchment Partnerships have been successful in awards of approximately £1.6 million in the South Esk and £200,000 in Deeside from the Nature Restoration Fund and £1.6 million from the Heritage Lottery within Cairngorms 2030 in the South Esk, Spey and Dee Catchments for large scale floodplain projects.</p> <p>Public bodies, fisheries board and trust, and community representatives committed time and resource to development of a Dee Resilience Strategy, aligning public and private outcomes around common objectives for water management.</p>

<b>Name</b>	<b>A10 Ecological network</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Connect habitats and ecosystems across all different types of land use in the National Park to create an ecological network, which will bring wider landscape, biodiversity and people benefits.



<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Establish a framework for an ecological network across the National Park by 2025.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	No current baseline. To be established following identification of connectivity indicators in 2024.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Nature Networks framework with indicators of connectivity, established by March 2024 by the Park Authority.  Cairngorms Nature Index measure of connectivity, to be established in 2024 repeated every five years.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Assessments of land manager interest, project progress and ambitions for habitat expansion, collated annually by the Park Authority.  Landowner interest and uptake in 'call for sites', collated annually by the Park Authority.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	The Park Authority has been working closely with NatureScot in aligning thinking for Nature Networks and links with the 30 x 30 commitment. Connectivity indicators for species, habitat and climate resilience will be ready during 2023.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	Underway, re-scheduled timeline to fit with development of national guidance on networks and 30 x 30 sites, Local Development Plan requirements and Cairngorms Nature Index.  Cairngorms National Park Nature Network scheduled for completion autumn 2024, including incorporation into Local Development Plan.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	NatureScot has developed draft criteria for Nature Networks and 30 x 30 sites. Criteria for Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) in development.

<b>Name</b>	<b>A11 Ecological restoration</b>
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<b>Objective</b>	Improve ecosystem functionality and resilience across the National Park by increasing the area of land managed principally for ecological restoration.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	At least 50% of the National Park to be managed principally for ecosystem restoration by 2045 (see Nature objective A12 – Cairngorms Nature Index).
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Accurate baseline to be established by October 2023.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	The percentage of Cairngorms National Park managed principally for restoration, every five years, the Park Authority.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Estate management statements reviewed and updated where necessary every five years by the Park Authority.</li> <li>b) Understanding of land manager ambitions, collected ad hoc by the Park Authority.</li> <li>c) Establishment and success of landscape-scale partnerships.</li> </ul>
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	Draft criteria developed, applied and mapped. 23% of the National Park managed principally for ecosystem restoration.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<p>27% of the National Park currently managed principally for ecosystem restoration. Native woodland creation and peatland restoration areas included in revised figures.</p> <p>Final criteria being developed in tandem with work on Nature Networks and 30 x 30. Scheduled for 2024.</p> <p>New landscape scale partnerships created in the Angus Glens and around the Dee Resilience Strategy</p>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	Land management plans and objectives at Dalnacardoch and Glen Prosen estates are more explicitly aligned with ecosystem restoration. More recent changes in land ownership and objectives are expected to make significant contribution to targets once





	management plans are finalised. The Park Authority is offering advice and support in writing plans.
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<b>Name</b>	<b>A12 – Cairngorms Nature Index</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Develop a more complete understanding of the National Park's species, habitats and ecosystems, and help monitor long-term progress through a dedicated Cairngorms Nature Index.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Develop and roll out the Cairngorms Nature Index by 2024.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Container Network Interface (CNI) freshwater baseline established. Baseline for all six ecosystems scheduled for 2024
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Number of Cairngorms Nature Index ecosystems completed, the Park Authority, annually.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Progress towards establishing Cairngorms Atlas and Data Portal. Special Landscape Qualities mapping, NatureScot, every five years.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	Work underway to establish baselines.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	On track to be completed by end of 2024.  Indicator selection has been completed for all six ecosystems, and baseline metrics will be finalised by the end of 2024. Data acquisition and setting of reference conditions is under way, with support from Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA), Atmos and relevant stakeholders, and will continue in 2024.  Active engagement with relevant stakeholders is ongoing, with the CNI presented at a number of relevant seminars and conferences.



<b>Partner Activity</b>	Contributions to steering group and providing data
<b>Name</b>	<b>A13 – Species recovery</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Ensure species thrive in the National Park with key assemblages across the Cairngorms within the semi-natural landscape.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Target: Species Recovery Curve – priority species progress from research to developing solutions to sustainable management.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Of the 29 priority species: a) 25 achieved and/or on track to meet recovery curve target. b) One requires further effort to bring on track to meet recovery curve target. c) Two at high risk of not meeting recovery curve target. d) One no data.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Progress along species recovery curve, annually as part of Cairngorms Nature Action Plan reporting cycle by the Cairngorms Nature Strategy Group. New Action Plan and reporting cycle under development, for publication 2024.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Updates on Priority Species projects, quarterly as part of Cairngorms Nature Action Plan reporting cycle by Cairngorms Nature Strategy Group.  Updates on capercaillie emergency plan delivery and beaver reintroduction, annually the Park Authority.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	Work underway to establish 2023 figures.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	Final report on Cairngorms Nature Action Plan due June 2024. Reporting against Species Recovery Curve targets to date: 15 achieved targets; six significant progress made; nine targets not met.



	<p>Over 80% of the actions were completed, but inexperience with using Recovery Curve in the Park resulted in some over ambitious targets being set, and external factors not accounted for.</p> <p>Beaver reintroduced to the upper Spey catchment.</p> <p>Park Authority and NatureScot joint capercaillie emergency plan scheduled for publication September 2024.</p>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	<p>Partner activity includes Rare Plants in the Cairngorms; Rare Invertebrates in the Cairngorms; Pine hoverfly and Dark bordered beauty translocation projects; and Wildcat reintroduction.</p>

<b>Name</b>	<b>A14 – Green investment</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Use private green investment in the National Park to fund nature's recovery and share the benefits between communities, landowners, workers and wider society.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Target: The Cairngorms National Park attracts an increasing amount of green finance per annum for projects that deliver multiple benefits (carbon, biodiversity, flood mitigation, community).
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	One green finance trial project is underway. Ha of land registered for Peatland Code and Woodland Code as of March 2022 (to follow).
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Ha of land registered for woodland and peatland codes, International Union for Conservation of Nature and woodland carbon code, annually.</p> <p>Number of trials and projects supported by green investment delivering restoration and/ or community benefit, annually, Cairngorms National Park Authority.</p>
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Land manager ambitions, ad hoc, Cairngorms National Park Authority.</p> <p>Progress on multiple natural capital metrics, annually, Cairngorms National Park Authority.</p>



	Land sales.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	The green finance trial established at Delnadamph is underway, delivering peatland restoration through a combination of 80% public and 20% private financing. The variation in public and private investment is heavily dependent on the price of the carbon market. Assessments are that for peatland restoration to be entirely privately funded the market price would need to rise from its current levels around £20 per unit, to approximately £80 per unit. The trial has been successful in demonstrating this model and that contributions from the public purse can reduce whilst 10% of the profits can potentially be realised for community benefit.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	The green finance trial at Delnadamph is progressing well with two of five sites complete. Financial model remains highly dependent on the price of carbon, with current prices projecting limited income to both landowner and community.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	Private sector investment to support the Park Authority Peatland Action has exceeded 300k in 2024 / 25. The Delnadamph peatland restoration pilot in partnership with Palladium is ongoing.



## People

Name	B1 Working-age population
<b>Objective</b>	The proportion of young and working-aged people in the National Park increases relative to the total resident population, which remains stable.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	The proportion of young people and working-aged people in the National Park relative to the total resident population increases between 2020 and 2045.  The population stabilises between 2020 and 2045.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Baseline currently 2021 mid-year estimates from National Records Scotland: a) Children (under 16 years): 14% b) Working age (16 - 64): 60% c) Pensionable Age (65 and over): 26%
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Mid-year estimates are published annually by National Records Scotland but are usually one to two years in arrears for publication.  2022 figures will be based on the 2022 Scottish Census data. Data is collated by Park Authority.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) Work has started on Local Development Plan (LDP) for 2026. b) Hospitality skills project started in Upper Deeside, partnering schools and business to develop young people and provide rewarding employment. c) Cairngorms Youth Action Team growing.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	a) Local Development Plan (LDP) Evidence Report in preparation and early engagement with key agencies and stakeholders started.



	b) National Records of Scotland 2022 based mid-year population estimates for Scotland and Local Authorities published 26 March 2024 – Data for small areas (allowing National Park to estimate) to be published from May/June 2024.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	Highland and Island Enterprise (HIE) and partners discussing a proposal to support MacDonald Aviemore Highland Resort develop a Hospitality Skills Academy.

<b>Name</b>	<b>B2 Wellbeing economy</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Develop a wellbeing economy that delivers social justice in a healthy ecosystem, drawing on the special natural and cultural qualities of the Cairngorms.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Develop Cairngorms Cornerstone Indicators and a Wellbeing Economy Action Plan by 2023.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Cornerstone indicators to be developed by Sept 2023.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	National Park Partnership Plan indicators (cornerstone indicators) to be monitored annually by the Cairngorms National Park Authority and take holistic view of wellbeing of National Park.  Scottish Government (SG) National indicators on wellbeing economy to be published 2023.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	
<b>Progress 2022 – 2023</b>	Cornerstone indicators developed. Wellbeing Economy Action Plan development slower than planned and requires work in late 2023.



<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	Wellbeing Economy Action Plan development to be completed by end 2024.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	Moray Council delivering community wealth building strategy and action plan  Highland Council consulting on community wealth building strategy.

<b>Name</b>	<b>B3 Real Living Wage</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Increase the number of Real Living Wage employers in the National Park.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	The Park will have an increasing number of Real Living Wage employers and will aim to have the highest proportion in rural Scotland by 2030.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Nine Real Living Wage accredited businesses in National Park 2022 / 23.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Annual data on Real Living Wage (RLW) accredited businesses from RLW Scotland.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Cairngorms Business Partnership member survey of Real Living Wage paying members 2023.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Real Living Wage employer accreditation data being collected.</li> <li>b) Grant to Cairngorms Business Partnership funded to undertake survey of members paying real living wage.</li> </ul>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Nine accredited Real Living Wage Employers in National Park 2023 / 24.</li> </ul>



	b) Cairngorms Business Partnership <a href="#">Business Barometer</a> survey indicated 67% of responding members pay the real living wage.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	HIE support is targeted at those business paying RLW. New HIE operating plan seeks to address/increase average wages in the region.

<b>Name</b>	<b>B4 Skills and training</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Increase skills and training opportunities for people in the National Park to meet business needs and ensure opportunities created by the growth in green jobs can be filled by residents and under-represented groups.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	There are an increasing number of apprenticeships within the National Park.  An increasing number of people employed in green jobs such as peatland restoration, deer management etc.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Skills Development Scotland data on apprenticeships – data being processed.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Annual, Skills Development Scotland statistics.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Case study examples of businesses or individuals / employees, ad hoc.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) Skill Development Scotland data on apprenticeships being processed.





	<p>b) Countryside Learning Scotland building the rural skills youth work with schools and planning a green skills training and employment event for 2024.</p>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<p>a) Countryside Learning Scotland building the rural skills youth work with schools and planning a green skills training and employment event for September 2024 (entitled 'Your Future Here').</p> <p>b) Park Authority continue to offer four trainee ranger posts for 2024. It also supported three internships, amounting to 1 full time equivalent.</p>
Partner Activity	Skills Development Scotland to lead a group to drive and coordinate skills interventions across the National Park area.

<b>Name</b>	<b>B5 Community assets and land</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Increase the number of assets in community ownership or management, the number of social enterprises that generate a profit and the area of land where communities are involved in management decisions.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	The numbers of assets in community ownership or management increases year on year from 2021.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	In 2021 there were 71 assets in community ownership or management: <a href="https://cairngorms.co.uk/working-together/supporting-communities/community-owned-assets-map/">https://cairngorms.co.uk/working-together/supporting-communities/community-owned-assets-map/</a> .
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Data to be updated annually by the Park Authority.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative</b>	Case study examples.



<b>(who collects, how often)</b>	
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) Community Action Plans reviews underway in Dalwhinnie and Ballater as well as completed for Blair Atholl and Struan.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<p>a) Number of recorded community assets in community ownership or management has increased to 99 by March 2024 (39% increase from 2021 baseline).</p> <p>b) Aviemore and Glenmore Community Trust progressing asset transfer of Glenmore Visitor Centre and cafe with Forest and Land Scotland.</p> <p>c) Grantown Initiative investigating asset transfer of former hospital buildings for key worker and affordable housing.</p> <p>d) Grantown Society have taken ownership of a retail space in Grantown on Spey to use as a community hub.</p> <p>e) Community Action Plan reviews completed or underway in Dalwhinnie, Nethy Bridge and Aviemore.</p>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	Woodland Asset Transfer approved for Braemar Community Limited by Aberdeenshire Council.

<b>Name</b>	<b>B6 New approaches to citizen participation</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Strengthen the participation structures that support planning and decision-making at a local level.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Review approaches to community participation and engagement in decision-making and develop an improvement plan by June 2023.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Communities struggle to maintain community councils and associations to represent community views and community organisations struggling to retain or attract new volunteers.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	



<b>Monitoring Data</b> – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case studies of participation, engagement and decision-making. Examples from Cairngorms 2030 Project.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) Cairngorms 2030 programme built wide engagement over a wide range of topics and involved over 2000 National Park residents.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	a) Cairngorms 2030 programme reviewing experience of development phase and a new in-house engagement team for the programme are taking forward a range of innovative methods (including gamification and deliberative democracy approaches). b) Community Action Plans incorporating spatial content to inform Local Development.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	

<b>Name</b>	<b>B7 Community-led planning and development</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Communities have up-to-date community action plans and are supported by a community-led local development funding programme, delivering the National Park Partnership Plan (NPPP).
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	All communities have community action plans in place that are no more than five years old.  A new scheme is in place to deliver funding for communities, at least equivalent to the old LEADER programme.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	2022 numbers available.  2022 funding.
<b>Monitoring Data</b> – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	Annual Cairngorms National Park Authority and Cairngorms Trust.



<b>Monitoring Data</b> – Qualitative (who collects, how often)	Case studies.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Approximately £360,000 of grant awards made by Cairngorms Trust for projects in the National Park, of which around £260,000 came from Scottish Government's Community-led Vision fund and £90,000 from Park Authority funding.</li> <li>b) Community Action Plans reviews underway in Dalwhinnie and Ballater as well as completed for Blair Atholl and Struan.</li> </ul>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) £400,000 of grant awards made by Cairngorms Trust for projects in the National Park from Scottish Government's Community-led Vision Fund and approximately a further £60,000 of funding from other sources.</li> <li>b) Community Action Plan reviews completed or underway in Carrbridge, Newtonmore, Dalwhinnie, Laggan, Aviemore, Kincaig Dalwhinnie, Nethy Bridge and Aviemore Grantown, Strathdon, Braemar.</li> <li>c) Community Action Plans incorporating spatial content to inform Local Development</li> </ul>

<b>Name</b>	<b>B8 Gaelic language and culture</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Encourage greater use of Gaelic in the National Park.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Increased opportunities for individuals and communities to engage with Gaelic language and culture.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Content of public sector Gaelic language plans.
<b>Monitoring Data</b> – Quantitative (who collects, how often)	



<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Public sector Gaelic language plan reporting. Case studies of Gaelic language and interpretation projects.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) National Park Brand refresh incorporates strong use of Gaelic across all levels of use.</li> <li>b) VisitScotland are developing the National Gaelic Tourism Strategy.</li> </ul>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Draft third Gaelic Language Plan out to public consultation from 25 January to 07 March. 396 responses were received in English and 31 in Gaelic, up from a total of 36 in 2017.</li> <li>b) Final plan sent to Bòrd na Gàidhlig on 05 July 2024 for approval.</li> <li>c) Gaelic awareness training for staff took place in October 2024 – a total of 40 people took part across four sessions.</li> <li>d) Coordinated Gaelic social media activity developed for World Gaelic Week, including a partnership with a leading Gaelic influencer.</li> <li>e) Grant award to Fèis Spè to support their programme of Fèis Week activities in October. Includes a Gaelic-speaking tutor visiting a number of primary schools and the delivery of a bilingual drama during the week.</li> </ul>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	

<b>Name</b>	<b>B8 Mental and physical health</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Improve the mental and physical health and wellbeing of the people of the National Park through greater connection with nature and the outdoors.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	There will be Green Health Referral programmes in place in all GP practices in the National Park.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Three Green Health Referrals since April 2023 (start of scheme). 14 health walks active in 2021 / 22.



<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Green Health Referrals, NHS, Annual. Health walks, Cairngorms National Park Authority, Annual.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Case studies of impact, profile/popularity of groups. via NHS and Cairngorms National Park Authority.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) Three Green Health Referrals since April 2023 (start of scheme). b) 16 health walks active in 2022 / 23.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	a) 24 Green Health Referrals during 2023 / 24 b) All four Badenoch and Strathspey practices now involved with referral systems in place and a self-referral option also available.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	

<b>Name</b>	<b>B10 A Park for All</b>
<b>Objective</b>	There will be better opportunities for everyone to enjoy the National Park and the visitor profile will be more diverse, especially with regards to people who are disabled, from lower socio-economic backgrounds, LGBTQ+ and from minority and ethnic groups.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Visitors to the National Park will more closely resemble the overall demography of Scotland.  Resident and visitor values and attitudes to key issues in the National Park are regularly evaluated.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	According to the 2019 / 20 visitor survey 2.4% of visitors to the National Park were of Black, Asian or minority ethnic groups, up from 1% in 2014 / 15.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative</b>	The next National Park Visitor Survey will be carried out in 2024 / 2025 and reported by the National Park Authority.



<b>(who collects, how often)</b>	
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Case study examples of unrepresented groups coming to the National Park or programmes to support them.</p> <p>The Park Authority and partners.</p>
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Park Authority partnering with Black Professionals Scotland <a href="#">Black Professionals Scotland - Include   Collaborate   Grow</a> to improve diversity and inclusion in Park Authority work.</li><li>b) National Park hosted two visits by Black Scottish Adventurers group <a href="#">Black Scottish Adventurers – This is Living!</a> To increase awareness of opportunities to enjoy the Park.</li></ul>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Park Authority completes the foundation level of the LGBT Youth Charter initiative, which encourages partner organisations to become meaningful allies to the LGBT+ community through a range of policy, HR and communications approaches.</li><li>b) Park Authority funding Cairngorms Trust to commission project building a network of contacts within ethnic minority groups around National Park. This will form the basis of a 'lived experience' panel for the National Park (as part of Cairngorms 2030).</li><li>c) One further visit to the National Park from Black Scottish Adventurers.</li><li>d) No further research findings – next visitor survey commences summer 2024.</li><li>e) Volunteering work with third sector saw 180 people from four groups including refugees and asylum seekers from Europe, Asia and Africa experience the National Park in 2023 / 24</li></ul>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	<p>Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) constructing new all abilities trail and finishing build of new accessible toilets at Loch Garten both supported by grant aid from the Park Authority</p>



<b>Name</b>	<b>B11 Volunteering and outdoor learning</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Increase the number of volunteer days spent caring for the National Park, taking an inclusive approach to volunteering recruitment.  Support and deliver opportunities for outdoor learning, linked to the special qualities of the National Park.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	At least 200 volunteer rangers in the National Park by 2030. Increase the number of National Park volunteer days every year. An increase in the number of John Muir Awards undertaken within the National Park.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	30 Volunteer Cairngorms participants 2022 (64 in 2023).
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Number of volunteer rangers, Cairngorms National Park Authority, Annual  Number of John Muir Award participants, Cairngorms National Park Authority & John Muir Trust, annual.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Case study examples of volunteering.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) Doubled participants in Volunteer Cairngorms (64 in March 2023). b) John Muir Award was reviewed in 2023 (nationally by John Muir Trust) and discontinued.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	a) Recruited a further 25 volunteers in winter 2023 / 24 with initial training in February / March 24. Since 2017 we have recruited 92 Volunteer Rangers, with 64 currently active. b) Park Authority Rangers deliver a Junior Ranger programme with local secondary schools.





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<b>Partner Activity</b>	a) Cairngorm Mountain, Cairngorms Connect, RSPB, Balmoral Estate and Aberdeenshire Council ranger services hosted a ranger of volunteer days and Junior Ranger activities with support of volunteer rangers.
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## Place

<b>Name</b>	<b>C1 Access to housing</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Ensure that there is sufficient affordable housing stock to enable people to live and work within the National Park.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	A maximum of 15% of all housing stock in the National Park will be second homes, vacant or short-term let properties by 2040.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Household estimates based on council tax data for 2021: a) Total dwellings: 10,283 b) Occupied: 8,643 (84%) c) Second homes: 1,118 (11%) d) Vacant: 522 (5%) e) Ineffective stock (second homes and vacant): 1,640 (16%)  Data on short-term lets not available until after licencing deadline passes on 01 October 2023.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Household estimates are published annually by National Records Scotland but are usually one to two years in arrears for publication.  Data on short-term lets will be derived from licencing data. The deadline for all existing short-term lets is 01 October 2023. A baseline will therefore not be available until that date has passed.  Data will be collated by Park Authority.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Case studies where appropriate.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) Local Authorities implementing short-term let licencing system. b) Highland Council progressing short-term let control area for Badenoch and Strathspey. c) Cairngorms Business Partnership investigating a larger scale housing project in partnership with Communities Housing Trust.



<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Highland Council Short term let control Area established March 2024.</li> <li>b) Perth and Kinross Council investigation establishment of Short Term let control area in Highland Perthshire</li> <li>c) Affordable and mid-market housing developments underway at Carrbridge, Dulnain Bridge, Aviemore and Kingussie</li> </ul>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	

<b>Name</b>	<b>C2 New housing</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Deliver new housing in the National Park and ensure as much as possible is secured for key workers and / or to resolve affordability issues.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	By 2030, 75% of new housing is for social rental, mid-market rental or other affordable categories that provide affordability in perpetuity.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	<p>Housing completions in the Cairngorms National Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Housing completions over the last five years: 412</li> <li>b) Completion in 2022: 132</li> </ul> <p>In 2022 39 planning applications were given consent for housing, with a net gain in the following tenure types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Market housing: 49</li> <li>b) Affordable housing (various tenures): 10</li> </ul> <p>Note, all consents that do not provide on-site affordable housing are required to make a financial contribution towards affordable housing.</p>
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Completion data is collected annually by local authorities and compiled to give an overall figure for the National Park by the Park Authority. Data for 2023 being collated as part of Local Development Plan preparation.



	Planning application data is monitored annually by the Park Authority.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Case studies of completed projects.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Affordable housing projects for Highland Council and partners in construction at Carrbridge, Dulnain Bridge, Kincaig and Kingussie.</li> <li>b) Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust Affordable Housing Project in Tomintoul completed and occupied.</li> </ul>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Affordable and mid-market housing developments underway at Carrbridge, Dulnain Bridge, Aviemore and Kingussie</li> </ul>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	

<b>Name</b>	<b>C3 Housing and community benefit</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Work with communities to ensure that the majority of land allocated for development around villages and towns in the National Park is controlled by communities or public bodies to help manage long-term development needs.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	The percentage of developable land in community or public body ownership is increasing.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	1% of land allocated in the Local Development Plan with capacity left to build is in community or public body ownership.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Data is collected annually by the Park Authority as part of Local Development Plan monitoring.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative</b>	



<b>(who collects, how often)</b>	
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) No new changes in land ownership/control recorded.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	a) Community groups exploring community housing projects in Strathdon, Braemar, Dulnain Bridge, Grantown on Spey.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	

<b>Name</b>	<b>C4 Village and town centres</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Ensure villages and town centres in the National Park are thriving places where people live, shop and meet.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	An increasing number of 20-minute neighbourhoods (or rural equivalent).  The percentage of vacant commercial properties on high streets of the National Park reduces.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	20-minute neighbourhoods are being defined as part of the preparation of the Local Development Plan and will be available in 2024.  Town Centre health checks have not been carried out since 2018 but are scheduled for August 2023. According to the 2018 check, the vacancy rates within town centre boundaries identified in the Local Development Plan were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Aviemore: 4%</li> <li>b) Ballater: 7%</li> <li>c) Grantown-on-Spey: 10%</li> <li>d) Kingussie: 23%</li> <li>e) Newtonmore: 20%</li> </ul> The town centre health check report also contains a qualitative analysis: <a href="https://cairngorms.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/CD014-Economic-Development-Evidence-Report.pdf">https://cairngorms.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/CD014-Economic-Development-Evidence-Report.pdf</a>



<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Definition of 20-minute neighbourhoods will be published in the Local Development Plan Evidence Report in 2024. Change in characteristics will be measured annually by the Park Authority.  Town centre health checks to be carried out biannually by the Park Authority.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Town centre health checks to be carried out biannually by the Park Authority.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	a) Town centre health checks completed late August 2023.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	

<b>Name</b>	<b>C5 Visitors to the National Park</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Work to stabilise visitor numbers in the peak season, focusing growth on quieter months and on those areas that have the infrastructure and capacity to manage for additional visitors. Maximise the economic and community benefit of tourism by encouraging longer stays, while maintaining existing high levels of visitor satisfaction.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	a) Growth in visitor numbers is concentrated at off-peak times of year and in areas with capacity. b) Length of visitor stays increase. c) Visitor satisfaction levels remain high.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	a) 2019 / 20 Visitor survey. b) Scottish Tourism Economic Activity Monitor (STEAM) data.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative</b>	The next National Park Visitor Survey will be carried out in 2024 / 25 and reported by the National Park Authority.



<b>(who collects, how often)</b>	STEAM data is published annually,
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	The next National Park Visitor Survey will be carried out in 2024 / 25 and reported by the National Park Authority.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Developing methodology for future Visitor Surveys</li> <li>b) Exploring use of mobile phone GPS tracking data to provide supplementary information on visitor locations and numbers</li> </ul>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	a) Coordinated winter marketing campaign delivered in partnership with Cairngorms Business Partnership (CBP) and partner businesses. Early signs from STEAM data suggest this is having an impact on December, January and February visits to the National Park.
<b>Partner Activity</b>	

<b>Name</b>	<b>C6 A sustainable destination</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Secure the National Park's reputation as an international exemplar in sustainable tourism and the management of protected areas.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	The National Park continues to be accredited with the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas and the Glasgow Declaration (Climate Action in Tourism).
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	The Cairngorms National Park is currently accredited with the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas and the Glasgow Declaration (Climate Action in Tourism).
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Park Authority monitors delivery of the Tourism Action Plan. National Park was rewarded Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas in late 2023 for period to 2027.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative</b>	



<b>(who collects, how often)</b>	
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Sustainable Tourism Action Plan approved by Park Authority Board <a href="http://cairngorms.co.uk">Tourism Action Plan (cairngorms.co.uk)</a>.</li> <li>b) National Park has re-applied for Europarc Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) National Park was re-awarded Europarc Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas in October 2023.</li> <li>b) Active Cairngorms Action Plan completed in winter 2023 / 24 which outlines the strategic approach to managing for visitors activity including ranger services and addressing wildlife disturbance.</li> </ul>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	

<b>Name</b>	<b>C7 Transport to and around the Park</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Promote a modal shift towards sustainable and active travel in the way visitors and commuters get to, and everyone moves around, the National Park.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 20% of current journeys by visitors, commuters and residents within the National Park do not take place by car by 2030.</li> <li>b) Increase active travel and public transport usage within the National Park.</li> <li>c) 25% of visitors get to the National Park by public transport by 2045.</li> <li>d) E-bike and adapted bike hire and charging facilities will be available in all main settlements and major visitor hubs by 2030.</li> <li>e) Key public transport options will have capacity for people to bring bikes to the National Park by 2030.</li> </ul>
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Park wide visitors survey 2019 / 20 for visitors.</li> <li>b) Cairngorms 2030 project building evidence on residents.</li> <li>c) Traffic counter data.</li> </ul>





<p><b>Monitoring Data</b> – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</p>	<p>Traffic counter data, Councils &amp; Cairngorms National Park Authority, annually. Rail use stats, Scotrail, annually. Stagecoach &amp; Regional Transport Partnership data on bus use,</p>
<p><b>Monitoring Data</b> – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</p>	<p>Case studies where appropriate.</p>
<p><b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Cairngorms 2030 projects will build data on use.</li> <li>b) Stagecoach piloted a new Aviemore to Cairngorm bus service through Glenmore with bike-carrying capacity in summer 2023.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Preparatory work continued during 2023 / 24 with Cairngorms 2030 programme</li> <li>b) Further bids to Places for Everyone fund for detailed design work on Active Travel routes submitted in winter 2023 / 24 but actual funding award delayed due to change in funding.</li> <li>c) Study into options for improving the Old Logging Way completed March 2024.</li> <li>d) Work with community to conclude development stage so the Park Authority / Transport Scotland can take on construction phase of Grantown – Dulnain cycle route.</li> <li>e) Behaviour change and Cycle Friendly Cairngorms work commenced February 2024</li> </ul>
<p><b>Partner Activity</b></p>	<p>Stagecoach committed to continuing Aviemore Explorer bus service in Glenmore corridor for 2024.</p> <p>Highland Council traffic and parking improvements at Glenmore and consideration of options for Aviemore parking that could support further Glenmore transport improvements.</p>

<p><b>Name</b></p>	<p><b>C8 Accessible path and cycle network</b></p>
<p><b>Objective</b></p>	<p>Improve path, cycle and outdoor access networks to give outstanding opportunities to experience the natural and cultural</p>



	heritage of the National Park to the widest range of people, while minimising disturbance to vulnerable species, habitats and sites.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	Increase the number of km of safe and inclusive off-road or segregated on-road routes between communities by 2030. All core paths are in good condition and accessible to the widest possible range of users.
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Baseline being set 2023.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Active Cairngorms reporting on path network condition, annual, Cairngorms National Park Authority. Length of new path construction, annual, Cairngorms National Park Authority.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Case studies of projects.
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) More than 10 kilometres of new or upgraded paths created in 2022 / 23 (Deeside Way, Anagach Woods Speyside Way and Kincaig community path).
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	a) New Geographic Information Systems (GIS) based path records developed and surveys undertaken with surveyed by end of 2023 / 24. b) 1100m of path improvements on Speyside Way / Aviemore Orbital route north of Aviemore in addition to many smaller improvements including paths around other communities. c) Charters Chest (Braemar – Keiloch) path construction under way and due for completion September 2024 d) Surveys produced for Meall a Bhuachaille path and Old Logging Way in spring 2024 e) Speyside Way realignment at Kincaig to improve accessibility now designed and contract to be let in 2024 / 25
<b>Partner Activity</b>	Aberdeenshire Council has upgraded 120m of path on the Deeside Way at Cutaway Cottage and the Easter Balmoral Bridge



	<p>refurbishment is now complete allowing those on popular local walks to avoid much of the South Deeside road.</p> <p>Cairngorms Mountain Scotland Limited (CMSL) and HIE are in the early stages of developing a project to create a designated cycleway up the public road from Glenmore.</p>
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<b>Name</b>	<b>C9 High-quality visitor experience</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Welcome visitors and provide a high-quality experience while managing their impacts through providing better infrastructure and high-quality ranger services.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	<p>Number of public toilets within the National Park is maintained.</p> <p>Increased public toilet facilities for people of with additional needs.</p> <p>Number of managed facilities for campervans increases.</p> <p>Visitor satisfaction levels remain high.</p> <p>Number of rangers employed within the National Park is stable or increasing.</p>
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Annual survey / review.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Number of public toilets available.</p> <p>Number of motorhome facilities available.</p> <p>Number of rangers employed by Cairngorms National Park Authority.</p> <p>Numbers of partner ranger services supported.</p>
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	<p>Visitor satisfaction – visitor survey as in C5.</p> <p>Residents' surveys by Cairngorms National Park Authority.</p>
<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	a) Numbers of Rangers employed by the Park Authority remains stable, but volunteer rangers' numbers have doubled to 2023.
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	a) Employment of rangers continued - five permanent with a further 11 seasonals recruited in February / March for summer 2024).



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) Continued with funding of £170,000 per annum towards partner ranger services</li> <li>c) Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Plan updated to reflect Cairngorms 2030 projects and new Active Travel ambitions and submitted to VisitScotland in March 2024.</li> <li>d) £200,000 of grant aid provided to partners in financial year 2023 / 24 to deliver infrastructure projects including public toilet and motorhome waste facilities</li> </ul>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	Significant Investment in Cairngorm Mountain facilities continue including works to sense of arrival and car park (part funded by Park Authority), Day Lodge and Ptarmigan buildings. Continued investment in the footpath network at Cairngorm Mountain and the Cairngorm Mountain Ranger Service.

<b>Name</b>	<b>C10 Cultural heritage</b>
<b>Objective</b>	Safeguard and promote the Park's cultural heritage and provide opportunities for everyone to experience and learn about the National Park's outstanding historic environment, history and culture.
<b>Target / Indicator</b>	<p>A Cairngorms cultural heritage network is established and flourishing.</p> <p>An increasing number of community-led cultural heritage projects delivered.</p>
<b>Baseline 2022</b>	Baseline linked to community project register.
<b>Monitoring Data – Quantitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Annual reporting. Record Heritage Horizons and Cairngorms Trust community grants for heritage projects.
<b>Monitoring Data – Qualitative (who collects, how often)</b>	Case studies of community-led heritage projects. Reports on development of cultural heritage network.



<b>Progress 2022 - 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Contract to investigate a cultural heritage network will be commissioned by Park Authority in late 2023.</li><li>b) Ceteran Ecomuseum awarded Heritage Lottery Fund support to the museum of rapid transition project <a href="#">Help Us Deliver The Next Phase Of Our Museum Of Rapid Transition programme - Ceteran Ecomuseum</a> in 2023 and 2024.</li></ul>
<b>Progress 2023 - 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Contract to investigate a cultural heritage network undertaken early 2024 and reporting by end of March 2024.</li><li>b) Options for a cultural heritage network to be considered in 2024 / 25, including the potential for a conference.</li><li>c) Cultural heritage a key component of new interpretation projects throughout the National Park, as well as 'Cairngorms Voices' interviews <a href="#">captured on Park Authority website</a> and in our residents' magazine.</li></ul>
<b>Partner Activity</b>	